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American Fern Society

Amedée Joseph Hans, a member of the Society since 1901, died at Locust Valley, Long Island, November 30, 1918. Mr. Hans was born Feb. 7, 1844, at Urbès, Alsace. When he came of age, he entered the gardening profession, having been a pupil of Louis van Houte of Belgium, proprietor of the most famous horticultural establishment of that time. Later, he took a position with another celebrated horticulturalist, Louis Lemoine of Nancy. So it was with the very best of qualifications that he landed in this country. His first position was at Morningside Park in New York, then under construction. This being a very rocky hillside park, Mr. Hans was in charge largely of a special class of alpine plants, with large moss phlox effects which were much appreciated by the general public travelling up and down the elevated road. He planted also thousands of the best alpine plants about the rocks of Central Park. He had a special talent for bringing forth the beautiful effects of color of the early varieties of moss phlox, with *Arabis alpina* and *Lychnis alpina* for white. He had a special love for alpine plants and felt himself in his element among them.

Mr Hans left the New York Parks to take charge of the private estate of Mr. Lowell M. Palmer at Stamford, Conn., which, under Mr. Hans's care, became celebrated for its beautiful evergreens and for a collection of hardy ferns probably not exceeded in America. Here Mr. Hans felt himself in his glory for many years; and I have spent many a happy day with him on this beautiful place. Afterward, he was persuaded to take charge of a new estate at Locust Valley, Long Island, and here, also, he gathered a fine collection of plants and had the best fruit garden I have ever seen in this country. He remained here until near the beginning of the two or

three years' illness which ended in the death of this great silent lover of God's almighty nature, loved himself by all who had the good fortune to know him.—JOHN F. HUSS, Hartford, Conn.

Mr. Hans was a real lover of ferns. Soon after he went to Locust Valley, he wrote with grief of the fact that ferns would not do well in that dry, brookless section of Long Island. His fern beds at Stamford were full of what were individual plants to him, and he was continually adding species by purchase, and by sowings of spores received from abroad. He established the fact that the holly fern, *Cyrtomium falcatum*, if derived from a north of Japan source, was hardy with slight protection.

Of even greater interest were his experimental spore plantings. As a result of one of these he obtained sporplings of *Nephrolepis* from material of the commonly cultivated *N. exaltata bostoniensis* which is almost invariably sterile. He published a brief report of this culture in the Florists' Exchange. At the Stamford place, in the small greenhouse, besides a small collection of greenhouse ferns, he had a section for spore growing, and every planting was made an experiment in hybridization, two or more varieties being planted together. At least once he obtained very interesting results, in the form of a distinct hybrid between *Dryopteris filix-mas* and *D. marginalis*, reference to which was made in the Fern Journal in connection with Mr. Winslow's description of the wild type of this hybrid. A specimen was deposited at the N. Y. Botanical Garden.—R. C. B.

The death of Prof. George Francis Atkinson from influenza and pneumonia removes one of the most prominent botanists of the country. Prof. Atkinson had recently discontinued active work as professor of bot-

any at Cornell, where he had been Head of the Department since 1896, and had gone to the west coast of the U. S. to collect fungi, a group which had occupied his main attention for many years. Earlier in his career he had given considerable attention to the study of ferns and had contributed important researches on their morphology and physiology.

Dr. Benedict has generously presented to the Society a number of copies of reprints of articles by him, for distribution to the members. The articles are as follows:

Studies in the Ophioglossaceae—III: Key to Botrychium in North America: Group of *B. ternatum*. (Reprinted from Torrey, Oct., 1909.)

A peculiar Habitat for *Camptosorus*. (Reprinted from Torrey, Jan., 1910.)

Some modern Varieties of the Boston Fern at their Source. (Reprinted from Journ. N. Y. Bot. Gard., Sept., 1915.)

Some horticultural Fern Variations. (Reprinted from Amer. Fern Journ., March, 1916.)

Copies of any or all of these reprints may be obtained by members on application to the Secretary, accompanied by two cents for postage.

The editors earnestly hope that the older members will be moved to action by Mr. Winslow's example and accept his invitation to contribute to the JOURNAL reminiscences of the early days of the Society. We have already in hand something of this general character in the shape of a very interesting letter written some years ago by Raynal Dodge and describing in much more detail than anything hitherto published his work which led to the discovery of *Dryopteris simulata* and *D. cristata* \times *marginalis*. Recollections of old times and the elder fern-lovers and fern-students, so many of whom have passed away, will be welcome for the JOURNAL.

In this number, a slight change in the arrangement of the JOURNAL is made. The supply of notes for the "Notes and News" department has greatly dwindled of late, and such news as comes in can very well be put with the Society matter. The heading "Notes and News" is, accordingly, discontinued; all original contributions, no matter how short (and we want short notes as much as ever, or more) are run as separate articles with, however, only a "side-head" for title if they occupy less than a page; reviews are placed by themselves under the heading "Recent Fern Literature;" and news items are put on the Society pages. If this arrangement proves satisfactory, it will be continued in future issues.

For the benefit especially of new members and beginners in the study of ferns, the editors wish again to call attention to the fact that they are ready and anxious to answer questions and give all help possible.

For the attractive illustration of the monastery garden at Noyon, the JOURNAL is indebted to Mrs. William F. Brooks, who very kindly furnished the plate.

Report of the Treasurer for 1918

RECEIPTS

| | | |
|---------------------------------|----------|----------|
| Cash on hand, Jan. 1, 1918..... | | \$142.05 |
| Membership dues for 1917..... | \$19.00 | |
| " " " 1918..... | 191.40 | |
| " " " 1919..... | 13.20 | |
| " " " 1920..... | 1.00 | |
| | <hr/> | \$224.60 |
| Subscriptions for 1917..... | \$ 2.80 | |
| " " " 1918..... | 33.08 | |
| " " " 1919..... | 9.90 | |
| | <hr/> | 45.78 |
| Carried forward..... | \$270.38 | \$142.05 |

| | | |
|---|----------|----------|
| Brought forward..... | \$270.38 | \$142.05 |
| Emergency Fund, sale of back numbers..... | 10.80 | |
| Interest..... | 6.00 | |
| Advertising..... | 4.00 | |
| Miscellaneous..... | .47 | |
| | <hr/> | |
| Total receipts during the year..... | | 291.65 |
| | | <hr/> |
| Grand total..... | | \$433.70 |

DISBURSEMENTS

| | | |
|--|----------|----------|
| Secretary's expenses: postage, election of officers, list of members, etc..... | \$ 19.84 | |
| Treasurer's expenses: postage and printing..... | 10.00 | |
| JOURNAL expenses: Printing..... | \$201.06 | |
| Illustrating..... | 14.85 | |
| Editors' expenses..... | 20.62 | |
| | <hr/> | |
| | | 236.53 |
| | | <hr/> |
| Total disbursements..... | | 266.37 |
| | | <hr/> |
| Balance on hand, Dec. 31, 1918..... | | \$167.33 |

This balance includes:

| | |
|--|----------|
| Emergency Fund now..... | \$ 65.99 |
| Illustrating Fund..... | 5.75 |
| Set aside for printing catalogue of the Herbarium..... | 25.00 |
| Regular Fund, available for regular use..... | 70.59 |
| | <hr/> |
| | \$167.33 |

The Special Fund created by the Life Memberships and transfers from the Emergency Fund from sale of back numbers now amounts to \$100, not having been increased this past year.

COMPARISON OF BUDGET AND PAYMENTS

| <i>Item</i> | <i>Allowance</i> | <i>Payment</i> |
|---------------------------|------------------|----------------|
| Secretary's expenses..... | \$22.50 | \$19.84 |
| Treasurer's expenses..... | 10.00 | 10.00 |
| JOURNAL expenses..... | 232.00 | 236.53 |

Respectfully submitted,
J. G. UNDERWOOD, *Treasurer.*

Changes in the List of Members to Date

Names of new members added:

Arnold, William T., 21 Park Road, Wyomissing, Pa.
Bear, Mrs. Charles U., 142 Putman Ave., Detroit, Mich.
Beckwith, Miss Florence, 255 University Ave., Rochester, N. Y.
Butler, Mrs. Ellis Parker, 242 State St., Flushing N. Y.
Comstock, John Belden, New Britain, Conn.
Eames, Mrs. Edward A., 155 Bryant St., Buffalo, N. Y.
House, Dr. Homer Dolliver, Education Building, Albany, N. Y.
Jewell, C. J., Alstead, N. H.
Jurica, Hilary S., St. Procopius College, Lisle, Ind.
Lorenz, Miss Annie, 96 Garden St., Hartford, Conn.
Macy, Perry D., Smyrna, N. Y.
Poyser, W. A., 207 South 37th St., Philadelphia, Pa.
Rose, Milton Sawyer, 187 Fayerweather St., Cambridge, Mass.
Wherry, Edgar T., Bureau of Chemistry, U. S. Dept. of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.
White, Kelton E., 4354 Maryland Ave., St. Louis, Mo.
Ziegler, S. W., R. D. No. 4, Dover, Pa.

Changes of address:

Anderson, Miss Flora C., R. D. 5, Crawfordville, Ind.
Bates, Miss Ethel, Box 39, South Berwick, Maine.
Blake, S. F., Bureau of Plant Industry, U. S. Dept. of Agriculture, Washington D. C.
Cornman, Mrs. L. R., Hot Lake Sanatorium, Hot Lake, Oregon.
Durand, Dr. E. J., Pillsbury Hall, Univ. of Minnesota, Minneapolis, Minn.
Evans, J., Box 97, Kirkland, Wash.
Heatley, Miss Margaret, Huguenot University College, Wellington, C. P., South Africa
Killip, E. P., 108 East 4th St., Oswego, N. Y.
Newman, Rev. S. M., R. D. No. 5, Danbury, Conn.
Phelps, Mrs. Orra P., R. D. 3, Gansevoort, N. Y.
Prince, Prof. S. Fred, Kansas State Agricultural College, Manhattan, Kan.
Scott, Mrs. Willard, 10 Park St., Brookline, Mass.
Stupp, F. J., 1 Sherman St., Auburn, N. Y.
Tuttle, Mrs. J. B., 1713 I St., Washington, D. C.

Names dropped:

A. L. Brandegee, Mrs. James E. Cooper,* C. K. Dodge,* Raynal Dodge, G. L. Fisher,* Amedée Hans, Mrs. W. B. Jolley, Miss H. E. Jones, Dr. E. I. Keffer, W. H. Leibelsperger, Miss Daisy J. Levy, Rev. H. G. Limric, Mrs. Charles P. Merwin, J. H. Pember, Prof. Ida L. Reveley, John W. Roberts,* Miss S. F. Sanborn, Mrs. M. W. Satchwell, Miss Blanche Turner,* Miss M. L. Utley.

Mr. Leston A. Wheeler has become a life member.

President Maxon has appointed the following committee to nominate officers for the year 1920: Mr. C. H. Bissell, Chairman, Southington, Conn.; Miss Nellie Mirick; and Dr. Philip Dowell. All interested are reminded that nominations made in writing by any three members in good standing and sent to the Chairman before August 20, will be placed on the official ballot.

* Deceased.